

## **Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility (BGNDRF) Newsletter**



***From the Manager:** We are pleased to present another issue of our periodic newsletter. It is designed to be a brief, information-filled page that will be of interest to our customers and friends. Feedback is welcome. Please contact me at (575) 443-6553 or email me at: [rshaw@usbr.gov](mailto:rshaw@usbr.gov).*

Randy Shaw, PE

### **Inaugural *Pitch to Pilot* Event – October 19-20, 2016**

Reclamation has developed a new cooperative agreement competition called *Pitch to Pilot*. It is a call for innovative pilot-scale water treatment technologies and processes for inland desalination. The event will feature a unique competition approach designed to accelerate proposal review and selection.

Six finalists were selected from applications for the funding. Each will pitch their innovation to the public on the evening of October 19<sup>th</sup>. The public will select a crowd favorite at the end of the evening. The second day of the event, consists of private sessions in which the finalists will pitch their innovation to a panel of technical and business experts. This panel will determine which finalists will receive \$100,000 grants. There will likely be more than one winner.

Winners will use the funding to design, build and test a pilot of their technology innovation at BGNDRF.

The six finalists are:

1. **UCLA** – Flexible Low-Energy Reverse Osmosis
2. **Lehigh University** – Enhanced Recovery from Impaired Water Resources: Field Scale Validation of Hybrid Ion Exchange Membrane (HIX-M) Desalination Process
3. **Pacific Advanced Civil Engineering, Inc.** - Development of Novel Photobiological Process to Improve Water Recovery in Brackish Groundwater Desalination
4. **University of North Texas** - Pilot Evaluation of a Sustainable Autonomous Brackish Groundwater Desalination System
5. **University of Texas at El Paso** - Low-Cost Recovery of Blowdown Water in Power Generation Facilities
6. **Mespilus, Inc.** - Pilot-Testing of Third-Generation Capacitive Deionization with Polarized Electrodes

The public event will be preceded by tours of BGNDRF beginning at 4:00 pm with the final tour beginning at 5:30 pm. The public event will begin at 6:30 pm and go until about 8:00 pm.

If you are interested in attending the public event, tickets are free and available at the following link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pitch-to-pilot-bridging-reclamations-clean-water-technologies-for-today-and-tomorrow-tickets-27498212895?aff=es2>

**For More Information about BGNDRF:** <http://www.usbr.gov/research/bgndrf/>